

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 CU-04 SCI-06 USIA-15 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 508

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

OAUBJZEL; EXCHANGES: LENSEN AND MATTESON

FOR EUR/SES

REF: MOSCOW 7866, 8096, 8426

1. RECENT EXPERIENCES OF GRANTEES LENSEN AND MATTESON WHICH POSED INSURMOUNTABLE DIFFICULTIES TO THEIR COMPLETING TERMS OF THEIR GRANTS SEEM TO CALL FOR FIRM AND CLEAR PROTEST TO ACADEMY OF SCIENCES FROM EMBASSY.

2. DEPT AND IREX WILL RECALL THAT PROFESSOR LENSEN WAS DENIED ACCESS TO 19TH CENTURY FOREIGN OFFICE ARCHIVES ON RUSSO-JAPANESE RELATIONS NECESSARY FOR COMPLETION OF HIS GRANT AND TOLD THAT ACCESS WOULD BE GRANTED NEXT YEAR. ACADEMY KNEW BEFORE HIS ARRIVAL WHAT ARCHIVES LENSEN PROPOSED USING AND EITHER FAILED TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH AUTHORITIES AT ARCHIVES OR HAD CHANGE OF HEART AFTER LENSEN ARRIVED.

3. SIMILAR LACK OF CLARITY ON ACADEMY'S APRT PREVENTED MATTESON FROM PURSUING HER RESEARCH FOR WHICH GRANT WAS GIVEN. UPON ARRIVAL AT INSITUTE OF HISTORY, LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE AT MAKHACHKALA MATTESON INFORMED THAT SHE COULD NOT WORK THERE BECAUSE APPROVAL FROM ACADEMY HAD NOT BEEN RECEIVED,
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AND THAT IN ANY CASE WORK DURING THE SUMMER WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE

BECAUSE MOST OF INSTITUTE STAFF ON VACATION.

4. HOWEVER, INSTITUTE INFORMED HER THAT THEY WOULD BE HAPPY TO ACCOMMODATE HER IN SEPTEMBER. THEREUPON MATTESON RETURNED TO MOSCOW TO SECURE NECESSARY PERMISSION ONLY TO BE TOLD THAT HER GRANT HAD EXPIRED. TO DATE ATTEMPTS BY BOTH MATTESON AND IREX TO HAVE HER GRANT EXTENDED TO PERMIT HER TO DO PRELIMINARY RESEARCH IN MOSCOW UNTIL TIME SHE COULD RETURN TO MAKHACHKALA HAVE PROVED UNSUCCESSFUL AND MATTESON ADVISED BY ACADEMY TO RETURN TO STATES AND COME BACK HERE AFTER SUMMER.

5. ACADEMY'S LACK OF COORDINATION WITH PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION IN MAKHACHKALA AND UNRESPONSIVENESS PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND SINCE THEY SPECIFIED DATES DURING WHICH MATTESON WOULD BE PERMITTED TO COME TO SOVIET UNION.

6. CONSEQUENTLY, EMBASSY PROPOSING WRITE LETTER TO KORNEYEV, CHIEF OF ACADEMY FOREIGN RELATIONS SECTION, DEPLORING TREATMENT OF LENSEN AND MATTESON. LETTER WILL NOTE THAT APPARENT LACK OF PREPARATION FOR VISIT OF THESE TWO EXCHANGEES LED TO MUCH LOSS OF VALUABLE TIME AND MONEY AND DISAGREEABLE EXPERIENCE FOR PARTICIPANTS.

7. EMBASSY WILL APPRECIATE ANY IREX OR DEPARTMENT COMMENT.
MELENCAMP

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